

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 27, 2007. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 29 to 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,151,131 (Pepin). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 29 is directed to a printing system which enables a printing device to print data transmitted by a remote computer. The printing system comprises a store controller unit that causes a memory unit to store print data of a first type job transmitted by said remote computer, wherein said first type job is not a second type job to which a first request by using user interface provided by said remote computer is not performed, a user interface controller unit that causes a user interface unit of said printing device to perform display for selecting at least one of a plurality of data including the print data which has been stored in said memory unit, and an operation controller unit that causes said printing device to perform a first operation relating to a second operation, wherein the first operation is an operation for printing scan image data obtained by using a scanner unit to a sheet needed as a cover, wherein the second operation is an operation for printing the print data selected by using, wherein the print data of the first type job is stored in the memory unit without starting a printing by said printing device in accordance with receiving the first request via said user interface provided by said remote computer, and wherein a printing result of the scan image data is attached to printing results of the print data as a bundle of printing results, and wherein the bundle of printing results is obtained

by performing the first operation and the second operation sequentially in response to inputting a single user instruction as a second request via said user interface unit of said printing device, and wherein the print data is obtained before inputting the single user instruction and the scan image data is obtained after inputting the single user instruction.

Claim 46 is directed to another aspect of the printing system. As featured in Claim 46, the printing system comprises a unit configured to control a scanner to obtain first data, a unit configured to cause a memory unit to store second data, a unit configured to cause a printer to print the first data obtained by using the scanner, a unit configured to cause the printer to print the second data stored in the memory unit, a unit configured to make certain printing results, the certain printing results being obtained by printing the first data and second data sequentially in response to inputting a single user instruction via a user interface, and wherein the first data is obtained after inputting the single user instruction and the second data is obtained before inputting the single user instruction.

Applicant submits that Pepin fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of the system of either Claim 29 or Claim 46. Specifically, Pepin fails to disclose or suggest at least the features of a first operation and a second operation that are sequentially performed in response to a single user instruction issued from a user interface. Moreover, the present invention allows obtaining print data to be printed in the first operation, prior to the input of this single user instruction, and further enables obtaining scan image data to be printed in the second operation, posterior to the input of this single user instruction. Furthermore, Claim 46 further includes the feature that both the first data (the data obtained by using the scanner) and the second data (the data stored in the memory unit) are sequentially printed in response to the single user instruction issued from the user interface.

This feature enables obtaining the first data posterior to the input of this single user instruction, and further enables obtaining the second data prior to the input of this single user instruction.

In contrast, Pepin discloses a creating page/image placeholders within a job during the creation of that job. Page placeholders are created by scanning and interpreting information from a placeholder sheet encountered in a document stack or manual programming of a variable number of page placeholders. Additionally, an image placeholder can be created by scanning and interpreting information from an area where an image is to be placed. Management operations related to the placeholder include adding, moving, copying, reviewing, and/or deleting operations. The placeholder page is in hardcopy or electronic form contains a description of the page to be added corresponding instructions written or printed in the form of machine readable characters or structural information. Placeholders remain with the job when the job is stored or transmitted electronically. (See Pepin, Column 9, Line 41 to Column 10, Line 7).

Therefore, the placeholder mechanism of Pepin requires the use of a preprogrammed print job. However, in the present invention, the bundle of printing results is obtained by performing the first operation using print data and the second operation using scan image data sequentially in response to inputting a single user instruction as a second request via said user interface unit of said printing device, wherein the print data is obtained before inputting the single user instruction and the scan image data is obtained after inputting the single user instruction.

Furthermore, Pepin discloses that the print jobs are programmed in a Job Program mode in which there is displayed on touchscreen 62 a Job Ticket 150 and a Job

Scorecard 152 for the job being programmed. Job Ticket 150 displays various job selections available for programming, while Job Scorecard 152 displays the basic instructions to the system for printing the job. Various Job Ticket types are provided, with access by means of Job Types and Tickets icon 153. Job Tickets 150 have three programming levels, referred to as "Job Level", "Basic", and "Special", each having a series of icons for accessing the various programming selections available at that level. Each programming level has a Scorecard 152 associated with it so that on activation of a particular job level or of a specific icon, the appropriate Scorecard is displayed on touchscreen 62. (See Pepin, Column 8, Lines 10 to 25).

Therefore, the touchscreen is not used to input a single user instruction as a second request via said user interface unit of said printing device, wherein the print data is obtained before inputting the single user instruction and the scan image data is obtained after inputting the single user instruction, as featured in Claims 29 and 46.

In light of these deficiencies in Pepin, Applicant submits that amended independent Claims 29 and 46 are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Independent Claims 37 and 45 are directed to a method and a computer-readable medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the system of Claim 29. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 37 and 45 are also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect

of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

No claim fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 50-3939.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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